

# **Users' Engagement in National Statistical System Country Report: Nepal**

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# Policies on Users' Engagement

- Users' participation in National Statistics Council  
(Government agencies, Research institutions, Academia)
- The NSDS of Nepal recognizes the important role of users in all aspects of statistical activities
- The draft of new Statistics Act 2019 acknowledges the rights and responsibilities of Users
- The CBS has a separate data dissemination policy
- The Government of Nepal has given high priority for Open Data spelled in the policies and programmes of upcoming fiscal year 2019/20
- The Constitution has secured Right to Information (Article 27)

# Practice of Users' Engagement

- Participation of Users in Census and Survey Planning
- Users Satisfaction Survey is conducted (2017)
- Regular interaction with Users at central, regional(7) and local level (753) [Statistical Literacy Programme]
- International development initiatives are aligned with national statistical plan . Necessary advocacy seminars are organized
- As per need, wide range of Users are invited in Steering Committees and Technical Committees formed for Censuses/Surveys
- Development plans are also designed, in many cases, with wider participation of stakeholders at large
- Demands of Users are addressed in annual planning and budgeting
- Involvement of Local Government, I/NGOs, CBOs, Professionals and media are made in censuses

# Users' Feedback in a Nut Shell

- Inconsistencies in the data produced by different institutions
- Data gap exists
- Disaggregated data by caste/ethnicity/ geography/sex/ disability/ are not available to the extent of Users' needs
- The publications are not sufficiently user-friendly
- Timeliness of data is not always satisfied
- Micro data are not readily available
- The demand for open data is scaling but the National Statistical System is not paying appropriate priority
- Two-third of total users visit CBS' website for their needs
- Coordination among data producers is a must

# Need of the National Statistical System for Users' Engagement

- An easy, functional and self-sustainable data sharing mechanism is a must
- Statistical Human Resource needs to be developed and placed in major government agencies producing official statistics
- Adoption of advanced information and communication technology is necessary.
- Adequate investment from government followed by complimentary financial and technical assistance from the development partners
- Training to focal person of concerned government agencies
- Designated Statistical System should be implemented

# Way Forward

- Implementation of the NSDS is crucial
- Statistical Literacy Programmes for all kinds of users (students, media, bureaucrats and politicians)
- An SDG data dashboard is placed on time covering all the key stakeholders of NSS
- Data Users are not organized. Hence, a forum of data users can be influential
- Statistical Users Satisfaction Survey needs to be made regular
- A Users Engagement Strategy should come in the NSS developed and owned by all the key stakeholders of NSS

**(T. F. Y. A.)**